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Senate

The Senate met at 10:04 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable Gor-DON H. SMITH, a Senator from the State of Oregon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God our shield, the giver of victory and honor, shine on us with Your kindness and bring us the rich harvest of joy. Lord, through many dangers You have brought us and we would not be guilty of ingratitude. Thank You for the catastrophes that haven't happened, for the unseen angels who have guarded our land and those we love. Help us to remember that all efforts to defend ourselves will fail without Your sovereign will and loving providence. May we not place our trust only in our ingenuity and courage, but instead lean on You, the Lord our God.

Today guide us with Your gentle spirit and lead us to right paths. Bless our lawmakers. May they trust You completely and permit You to clear the road ahead. Train them in Your school of humility so they will walk safely and never stumble. Give them the wisdom to obey Your teachings so they will live long and prosper.

We pray this in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable GORDON H. SMITH led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President protempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The assistant clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,

President pro tempore, Washington, DC, September 24, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Gordon H. Smith, a Senator from the State of Oregon, to perform the duties of the Chair.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Ted Stevens,} \\ \textit{President pro tempore.} \end{array}$

Mr. SMITH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The assistant majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, this morning, the Senate will be in a period for morning business to accommodate several Members who have statements to make. I do not anticipate a long session today, and once we complete our business, we will adjourn until Monday. As we announced last night, no rollcall votes will occur during today's session of the Senate.

As a reminder to Senators, on Monday we will begin consideration of the intelligence reform bill. No rollcall votes will occur on Monday. However, we anticipate that amendments will be offered and debated during Monday's session. Any votes ordered with respect to those amendments will occur Tuesday morning. Therefore, Senators can expect the next vote or votes to occur sometime Tuesday morning. As always, we will notify our colleagues as any votes are ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The assistant Democratic leader is recognized.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we have two Senators on our side who wish to speak: Senator Wyden for 10 minutes and Senator Dorgan. On behalf of Senator Dorgan, I ask unanimous consent that he be allowed to speak for up to 40 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, we have at least one Senator who would like to speak on this side who should be here shortly.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

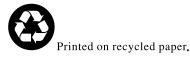
Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. DOLE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRADE

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I was intending to speak earlier this week on the subject of trade, but because of the Senate schedule I decided to wait until today, when we don't have Senate business that would require votes.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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